LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A collapsible weighing scale for outputting the full weight of an associated object, said scale comprising:

a support structure including a first support member and a second support member operatively connected to and displaceable relative to said first support member between a storage condition of said support structure and a use condition of said support structure, wherein said first and second support members are in a ~~common~~ first plane in both said storage condition and said use condition;

a plurality of platform segments mounted to said support structure and including first and second outer platform segments respectively secured on said first and second support members and at least one inner platform segment secured between said first and second outer platform segments, said plurality of platform segments having an extended position in which all of said platform segments are located in said first plane of said first and second support members, and a collapsed position in which ~~at least some of~~ said outer platform segments are displaced from ~~a~~ said first plane of said first and second support members into a second plane different from said first plane and said at least one inner platform segment is displaced from said first plane into a third plane different from said first and second planes~~, and an extended position in which all of said platform segments are located in said plane of said first and second support members~~;

a load sensing apparatus mounted to said support structure, said load sensing apparatus providing an output signal of the full weight of the associated object; and,

an output device for communicating the full weight of the associated object, said output device being in electrical communication with said load sensing apparatus and receiving said output signal therefrom;

each of said support members and said platform segments extends in generally transverse relation to the direction in which said support structure extends and collapses.

2. (Original) A collapsible weighing scale according to claim 1, wherein said support structure further includes a pair of collapsible support beams pivotally interconnected between said first and second support members.

3. (Original) A collapsible weighing scale according to claim 1, wherein said plurality of platform segments are hingedly interconnected.

4. (Currently amended) A collapsible weighing scale for outputting the full weight of an associated object, said scale comprising:

a support structure including a longitudinal axis and a base member extending along the longitudinal axis, ~~and~~ said support structure including a plurality of support members pivotally mounted on said base member with at least one of said plurality of support members being secured along each of a pair of opposed sides of said base member, ~~and~~ said plurality of support members being displaceable between extended and collapsed positions, in said collapsed position said support members extending in generally aligned relation to said base member and in said extended position said support members extending in generally transverse relation to said base member with at least one of said support members projecting from each of ~~the~~ said opposing sides of said base member[[.]];

a plurality of platform segments connected to said support structure and having respective collapsed and extended positions corresponding to said collapsed and extended positions of said support structure;

a load sensing apparatus mounted to said support structure, said load sensing apparatus providing an output signal of the full weight of the associated object; and,

an output device for communicating the full weight of the associated object, said output device being in electrical communication with said load sensing apparatus and receiving said output signal therefrom.

5. (Original) A collapsible weighing scale according to claim 4, wherein said plurality of platform segments is connected by a flexible membrane.

6. (Previously presented) A collapsible weighing scale according to claim 4, wherein said plurality of platform segments comprise elongated rods.

7. (Original) A collapsible weighing scale according to claim 5, wherein said plurality of support members includes a first pair of support members and a second pair of support members.

8. (Original) A collapsible weighing scale according to claim 7, wherein each support member of said first pair of support members includes a plurality of gear teeth, said plurality of gear teeth of one of said support members interengaging said plurality of gear teeth of the other support member such that displacement of one support member of a pair of support members causes displacement of the other support member of said pair of support members between a collapsed position and an extended position.

9. (Original) A collapsible weighing scale according to claim 4, wherein said support structure includes a linkage arrangement interconnecting said plurality of support members such that displacement of one support member causes displacement of another support member.

10. (Original) A collapsible weighing scale according to claim 9, wherein said linkage arrangement includes a pivot member pivotably supported on said base member and a first and a second linkage member, each respectively extending between said pivot member and different ones of said plurality of support members.

11. (Original) A collapsible weighing scale according to claim 4, wherein said plurality of platform segments extend longitudinally along said base member and are supported on said support members in said extended position.

12. (Currently amended) A collapsible weighing scale for outputting the full weight of an associated object, said scale comprising:

a support structure displaceable between a collapsed position and an extended position, and including a base member having a longitudinally extending centerline defining opposing sides of said base member, a plurality of support members pivotally mounted on said base member with at least one of said plurality of support members mounted along each of said opposing sides of said base member, an actuating member, and a linkage arrangement interconnecting said actuating member and at least one of said plurality of support members, wherein in said collapsed position of said support structure said support members extend in generally aligned relation to said base member and in said extended position of said support structure said support members extend in generally transverse relation to said base member;

a plurality of platform segments mounted on said support structure and having respective collapsed and extended positions corresponding to said collapsed and extended positions of said support structure;

a load sensing apparatus supported on the said supporting structure, said load sensing apparatus providing an output signal of the full weight of the associated object;

an output device for communicating the full weight of the associated object, said output device in electrical communication with said load sensing apparatus and receives said output signal therefrom.

13. (Original) A collapsible weighing scale according to claim 12, wherein said plurality of support members include a first and a second support member forming a first pair of support members and a third and a fourth support member forming a second pair of support members, wherein said first and said second support members and said third and said fourth support members respectively interengage one another such that displacement of one of said support members of said first and said second pairs of support members causes displacement of the other respective support member of said first and said second pairs of support members.

14. (Original) A collapsible weighing scale according to claim 13, wherein said first support member, said second support member, said third support member and said fourth support member each include a plurality of gear teeth.

15. (Original) A collapsible weighing scale according to claim 14, wherein said plurality of gear teeth of said first support member interengage said plurality of gear teeth of said second support member, and said plurality of gear teeth of said third support member interengage said plurality of gear teeth of said fourth support member.

16. (Original) A collapsible weighing scale according to claim 13, wherein said linkage arrangement includes a pivot member pivotally supported on said base member and a first and a second linkage member respectively interconnecting said pivot member and said first and said second pair of support members.

17. (Original) A collapsible weighing scale according to claim 13, wherein said plurality of platform segments extend longitudinally along said base member and are supported on said support members in said extended position.

18. (Original) A collapsible weighing scale according to claim 13, wherein said plurality of platform segments is connected by a flexible membrane.

19. (Original) A collapsible weighing scale according to claim 13, wherein said plurality of platform segments comprise elongated rods.

20. (Original) A collapsible weighing scale for outputting the full weight of an associated object, said scale comprising:

a support structure including a first support member, a second support member displaceable from said first support member and a plurality of platform segments interconnected with one another and supported by said first and second support members in a deployed orientation thereof, each of said platform segments is pivotally interconnected to an adjacent platform segment by a pivotal joint, and each platform segment includes a male joint portion and a female joint portion;

a load sensing apparatus mounted on said support structure, said load sensing apparatus providing an output signal of the full weight of the associated object; and,

an output device for communicating the full weight of the associated object, said output device being in electrical communication with said load sensing apparatus and receiving said output signal therefrom.

21. (Original) A collapsible weighing scale according to claim 20, wherein said male joint portion comprises a cylindrical rail.

22. (Original) A collapsible weighing scale according to claim 20, wherein each of said platform segments has a top, a bottom and opposing sides, and said male and female joint portions are each disposed along a different one of said opposing sides.

23. (Original) A collapsible weighing scale according to claim 22, wherein each of said sides of said platform segments includes a side wall portion that the contacts said side wall portion of adjacent platform segments in said deployed orientation thereby restricting the pivoting motion of said pivotal joints.

24. (Original) A collapsible weighing scale according to claim 23, wherein said side wall portion is adjacent said top and each of said male and female joint portions is positioned below said respective side wall portion on each of said platform segments.

25. (Original) A collapsible weighing scale according to claim 20, wherein said first support member includes one of a male joint portion and a female joint portion, and said second support member includes the other of said male joint portion and said female joint portion.

26. (Original) A collapsible weighing scale according to claim 25, wherein each of said support segments has a top, a bottom, and a side, and said respective joint portion is disposed along said side.

27. (Original) A collapsible weighing scale according to claim 26, wherein said side of each of said support segments includes a side wall portion that contacts a corresponding side wall portion on an adjacent platform segment thereby restricting the pivoting motion of said pivotal joint.

28. (Original) A collapsible weighing scale according to claim 27, wherein said joint portion of each of said support segments is below said respective side wall portion.

29. (Original) A collapsible weighing scale according to claim 20, further comprising a stabilizing bar disposed between said first and second support members to further

support the weight of the associated object.

30. (Original) A collapsible weighing scale comprising:

a platform;

a membrane attached to said platform;

a plurality of support segments mounted to said membrane, wherein said membrane and said support segments can be alternately deployed into a use configuration and stowed in a storage configuration;

a load sensor connected to said platform to sense the full weight of an associated object positioned on the scale; and

a display, connected to said load sensor, for converting the weight sensed by said load sensor to human readable form.

31. (Original) The scale of claim 30, wherein said membrane comprises a plurality of pockets, each pocket holding a respective support segment.

32. (Original) The scale of claim 31, wherein said support segments comprise rods.

33. (Original) The scale of claim 31, wherein said plurality of pockets are longitudinally aligned.

34. (Original) The scale of claim 33, wherein a longitudinal axis of said platform is aligned with respective longitudinal axes of said plurality of pockets.

35. (Original) The scale of claim 30 further comprising a first support segment which is movably mounted to said platform so that it can be deployed from a storage configuration to a use configuration.

36. (Original) The scale of claim 35 further comprising a second support segment which is movably mounted to said platform so that it can be deployed from a storage configuration to a use configuration.

37. (Original) The scale of claim 36, wherein said first support segment is located on a first side of said platform and said second support segment is located on a second side of said platform.

38. (Original) The scale of claim 35 further comprising a link for connecting said first support segment to said platform.

39. (Original) The scale of claim 30, wherein said membrane comprises a central portion, a first side and a second side and wherein said membrane central portion is secured to said platform.